WORLD PARISH

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JUNE, 1961

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WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

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WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

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MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SECTION XIII. WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

MAY 9, 1961

The Executive Committee of Section XIII, World Methodist Council, met in the Board Room at the Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tennessee, at 10:00 A.M., on Tuesday, May 9, 1961.

In the absence of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman Oscar T. Olson presided.

Those present were Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, Bishop T. Otto Nall, Bishop Roy H. Short, Bishop Willis J. King, Elmer T. Clark, Oscar T. Olson, Mrs. Paul Arrington, James W. Fowler, Jr., J. Manning Potts. Bill Hearne of Methodist Information was also present.

The Secretary presented a printed report and it was agreed that the various items therein would be considered as they were read.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

The Secretary distributed copies of the present Constitution and also copies of the Proposed Constitution drafted by a sub-committee on Closer Union of World Methodism to be presented to the Olso meeting of the World Methodist Cnference in August, 1961.

There was a discussion of the Constitution in which most of the members participated.

On motion of Bishop Ivan Lee Holt, seconded by J. Manning Potts, it was unanimously agreed to recommend that the name World Methodist Council be retained instead of Methodist World Federation as recommended by the committee. It was pointed out that the organization is not and cannot be a Federation of Methodist Churches but is in fact a Council which meets for consultation only.

On motion of Bishop T. Otto Nall, seconded by J. Manning Potts, it was unanimously agreed to recommend that the term World Methodist Conference be retained instead of World Methodist Congress as recommended by the committee. It was pointed out that Conference is the historic term adopted by John Wesley and used by all the Methodist bodies in the world, while Congress is not used by any Methodist group, or so far as is known by any other denominational group anywhere.

The Secretary stated that he would have both the present and proposed Constitutions printed in parallel columns and distributed to all the Sections and sent to Oslo to facilitate discussion. (See pages 17-22)

It was agreed that in Paragraph XI of the proposed constitution, under departments and affiliates, the words "such as the World Federation of Methodist Women" be inserted at a proper place. It was stated that there is a probability that world organizations of Methodist laymen and deaconesses will be formed and ask for affiliation.

Members of the Council

The Secretary presented a list of recommendations for members of the World Methodist Council and called attention to the section of his report headed "Members of the Council." These were accepted for presentation to the Council meeting at Oslo, Norway. (See pages 23-26).

It was understood that a suggestion had been made that Bishop Ivan Lee Holt should be continued as a Past President and his services retained on the World Executive Committee. This was recommended.

The Secretary was asked to communicate with Bishop Prince A. Taylor and request him to nominate one additional member from Liberia.

Officers and Committees

The Secretary presented that section of his report under the heading of "Nominations."

The paragraph relative to Dr. Tuttle's assumption of office as of June 1, 1961, was adopted.

It was pointed out that the World President and Secretaries were elected by the Executive Committee at Zurich, Switzerland in August, 1960, but the names of those from The Methodist Church, U. S. A., were included here for the record and to indicate our hearty approval.

The following were then nominated as representing The Methodist Church, U. S. A.

World Officers

President: Bishop Fred P. Corson
Vice President: Charles C. Parlin
Vice President: Bishop Roy H. Short
Secretary: Lee F. Tuttle
Secretary: Elmer T. Clark
Treasurer: Edwin L. Jones

World Executive Committee

Bishop Fred P. Corson
Charles C. Parlin
Elmer T. Clark
Lee F. Tuttle
Edwin L. Jones
R. E. L. Bearden
Harry Denman
Bishop Gerald Ensley
Bishop Paul N. Garber
Bishop Paul E. Martin
Miss Dorothy McConnell
Bishop Noah W. Moore
Bishop T. Otto Nall
Oscar T. Olson
Mrs. J. J. Perkins
J. Manning Potts
Bishop Roy H. Short
Mrs. J. Fount Tillman

Executive Committee of Section XIII

Chairman: Bishop Paul E. Martin
Vice Chairman: Bishop James W. Henley
Secretary: Lee F. Tuttle
Secretary: Elmer T. Clark
Treasurer: Edwin L. Jones
Mrs. Paul Arrington
Bishop Fred P. Corson
Mrs. C. C. Cranford
Harry Denman
J. W. Fowler, Jr.
Bishop Paul N. Garber
Robert G. Mayfield
Miss Dorothy McConnell
Gerald O. McCulloh
Bishop Noah Moore
Bishop T. Otto Nall
Charles C. Parlin
Mrs. J. J. Perkins
Bishop Glenn Phillips
J. Manning Potts
Bishop Roy H. Short
Mrs. J. Fount Tillman

It was agreed that certain connectional officers of The Methodist Church, U. S. A., should from time to time be invited to attend the meetings of the World Executive Committee at the expense of the boards and organizations with which they are connected.

Administrative Work

The Secretary read and explained that section of his report under the heading of "Administrative Work" and it was unanimously adopted. This provided that the direction of the work of Ministerial Exchanges, Oxford Theological Institute, and all other administrative work of the World Methodist Council should be carried on by the Secretaries as provided in the section of the report above mentioned.

The sections of the report under the heading of "Evangelism and Oxford Institute" and "World Confessional Meeting" were unanimously adopted.

The Committee expressed its gratitude to Bishop Roy H. Short and Dr. Don A. Cooke for their great service in securing funds to make possible the attendance of certain Bishops at the World Methodist Conference in Oslo, Norway.

New York Office

The Secretary called attention to that section of his report dealing with a proposed branch office in New York.

He stated that he had just returned from New York where he had conferences about the possibility of securing offices in the Interchurch Center on Riverside Drive. He found that no offices are presently avail-

able. However, there is a possibility that space now occupied by the International Missionary Council, which is next door to the offices of the World Convention of the Churches of Christ (Disciples), may be vacated when the body unites with the World Council of Churches at New Delhi, India, in November-December, 1961. He pointed out that the following courses are open: (1) apply for the space mentioned and wait for the action to be taken at New Delhi; (2) if the space is not then available, go on the waiting list of the Interchurch Center; (3) seek offices elsewhere. He stated that he had visited a building near the United Nations in which offices were at that time available at a lower rental than at the Interchurch Center.

It was agreed that the whole matter should be determined by the Treasurer, in consultation with the other officers, as recommended in the Secretary's report.

The Eleventh Conference

It was agreed that the invitation of the Lake Junaluska Assembly to hold the next World Methodist Conference there be accepted for recommendation but that this action should not preclude the consideration of other invitations that might be received before August, 1961.

Executive Committee Meetings

There was consideration of recommendations for the holding of the next meetings of the World Executive Committee. It was agreed that the 1962 meeting should be at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, and the 1963 meeting should be at Rome, as per the Secretary's report.

It was agreed that the 1964 meeting should not be held in Liberia unless suitable hotel accommodations can be secured at a reasonable rate. It was further agreed that South Africa should not be considered because the government's racial policies make a meeting there impossible.

It was then unanimously voted that the first recommendation for 1964 should be Rio de Janeiro and that the alternate choice should be Trinidad.

Final Items

The Secretary distributed copies of the program of the Tenth World Methodist Conference at Oslo, Norway, August 17-25, 1961, and stated that this was being printed with the program of the World Federation of Methodist Women.

Oscar T. Olson stated that reading in preparation for the Oslo Conference might well include Bishop Odd Hagen's forthcoming book, *Prelude to Methodism in Northern Europe,* and Bishop Friedrich Wunderlich's *Methodism Linking Two Continents.*

The Committee adjourned.

Elmer T. Clark, *Secretary*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SECTION XIII, WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

May 9, 1961

REPORT OF SECRETARY

Some months ago, because of our inability to arrange a fall meeting, I sent a report to all members of this Executive Committee, stating that any recommendations therein would be regarded as adopted unless there were objections or suggested changes. None were received so it is presumed that the report was accepted.

In that report it was pointed out that the World Methodist Building had been enlarged and is now worth $100,000, without indebtedness, with the world's finest and largest Wesleyana collection, the value of which cannot be computed in financial terms. Our budget of $80,000 was itemized and the Central World Fund described. It was recommended that the item of $5,000 for the *Dictionary of World Methodism* be cumulative and amounts not used in one year be set aside for later use when expenses increase as editorial work progresses.

REVIEW OF PROGRESS

With the close of another quinquennium of the World Methodist Council it seems fitting to summarize briefly the progress that has been made, even though various points will be mentioned later in this report.

The Council is now eighty years old. For sixty years it had no real organization, office, or continuing officers, but its whole function was the holding of a speech-making meeting decennially. At Oxford ten years ago the present name was adopted, the interim between meetings was changed from ten to five years with annual Executive Committee meetings, one President was elected, a Secretariat was set up with headquarters in England and the United States, Sections were formed with members from the whole Methodist world, standing committees were organized, and a world-wide campaign of evangelism was launched. However, the Council had no funds from any source.

Since that time the growth and influence of the body has been quite remarkable. The first World Methodist Conference after the new organization was adopted was held at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, with around two thousand people in attendance. This secured publicity in the press all over the world, including the leading editorial in the *New York Times,* and was hailed as the greatest meeting of world Methodism ever held.

While few of the committees have functioned, we have built up a world-wide system of exchange of preachers, and have held one theological institute at John Wesley's old college at Oxford. An affil-

iated World Federation of Methodist Women has been formed and there are prospects of a similar world group of Methodist laymen and deaconesses. On our initiative there has been held biennially at the headquarters of the World Council of Churches at Geneva, Switzerland, meetings of the representatives of all the world confessional organizations.

We have perfected an arrangement with the American Association of Methodist Historical Societies and have jointly published a "Who's Who in Methodism," "An Album of Methodist History," and a new and annotated edition of "The Journal and Letters of Francis Asbury." We now have full-time secretaries on both sides of the Atlantic and are preparing to enlarge the Secretariat. We have erected the World Methodist Building at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, which is the Methodist headquarters and show place of the nation and is visited annually by scores of thousands of people. We are planning to establish a branch office in New York. As a part of our plan to develop a closer union of world Methodism, a new Constitution has been prepared for submission to the next meeting of the Council.

The Council has the enthusiastic endorsement of the General Conference. In 1952 we secured a small appropriation for operating expenses and it has been increased quadrennially and is now $80,000 per year, while the Historical Society has $40,000 which is combined with the Council's budget on a proportionate basis. All this represents considerable progress and the later paragraphs of this report will show that other advances are being planned and actually under way.

The Oslo Conference

The Tenth World Methodist Conference will be held in Oslo, Norway, August 17-25, 1961, preceded by the meeting of the World Federation of Methodist Women. Our efforts in recent months have been directed to preparations for this Conference. The delegations have been organized, the program prepared, travel arrangements made for hundreds of people, and numerous other details handled.

This is expected to be a very great Conference, though neither as long nor as large as the Ninth World Conference at Lake Junaluska in 1956. From the United States there will be approximately 900 members, delegates, and official representatives, and a considerable number from the other Sections in the Western Hemisphere, for which our office functions. To secure information from and arrange travel and housing for all these has occupied all the time of our staff. Those who made arrangements through our own travel agents have been handled with relative ease, but many are using other agencies and want us to secure hotel accommodations for them. These we forward to the Oslo Committee through our own agents, who have cooperated fully in helping those who do not use their services.

We have secured the fifty youth delegates we desired, as well as the adult counselors. It may be necessary to help some of the coun-

selors from the special youth fund which we have secured and which does not come from our budget.

Program

The theme of the Oslo program is "New Life in the Spirit." We have sent out an exposition of that theme prepared by Dr. Harold Roberts, the President. We are submitting a draft of the program, which must be regarded as tentative and not for publication. The preparation of this program has been unusually difficult. The Conference is four days shorter than it was in 1956, which means that fewer people can be used. We have been subjected to heavy pressure from various sources for representation, much of which it was necessary to resist. It is feared, therefore, that it will not be satisfactory to some persons but we have done the best we could.

There were several meetings of the program committee and two conferences in Oslo with the local arrangements committee. The program was almost completed at a meeting in New York in November, 1960, and authority was there given to the Secretaries to make any adjustments necessary to put the program in completed form.

New Constitution

It will be recalled that for three years we have been discussing "The Closer Union of World Methodism." At Zurich last year a committee was formed with Mr. Charles C. Parlin as chairman. A sub-committee reported last November that a new Constitution of World Methodist Council was needed and a draft was presented. This was sent to all the committee members and some suggestions were made which have been embodied in a revised draft, which is submitted herewith. It will be up for discussion and adoption at Oslo. It follows the pattern of our present Constitution, which has been in operation only five years and was rather hastily drawn. The few alterations proposed are:

1. The Sections as such are eliminated and the members of the Council will be elected directly by the Churches. This means that the representatives of our Central Conferences and foreign mission fields will be added to those in this country and the total will represent The Methodist Church and will replace the present Section XIII.

2. There are no committees except the Executive Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee, the member groups being free to set up such committees as they desire. While not in the document itself, it was pointed out that the work of the committees in the United States will be a part of the administrative duties of the Secretaries, who may call on any persons desired to cooperate in any phase of the program.

3. Instead of being elected annually, the Secretaries and Treasurers will be elected "at each Council meeting," which means that

they will have quadrennial or quinquennial tenure as is true of all our connectional officers.

4. The name of the World Methodist Conference will be changed to Methodist World Congress.

5. Council meetings will be held at four-year intervals and the Congress must be convened at least once in eight years. Thus there will never be another meeting during the General Conference years of any American Methodist Church.

The only suggestions for amendments that I have heard are the following:

a. The Council should meet just prior to and at the seat of the Congress and at least once between meetings of the Congress.

b. The Congress should be required to meet at not over six-year intervals, in order to maintain continuity, fellowship and leadership that might be lost if there were no world-wide meeting for eight or ten years.

Members of the Council

Acting on the assumption that the proposed Constitution will be adopted, we have secured nominations for members of the World Methodist Council from our Jurisdictions, Central Conferences, and affiliated autonomous Churches. With the adoption of the Constitution these will represent our own Church, and otherwise they will be members of Sections. The names of those nominated have been submitted to our nominating committee and will be reported to this Executive Committee.

At the present time the World Methodist Council has 284 members, exclusive of the ten from China which have never been appointed. These are not assigned to the Sections on a proportionate basis. Our own Section has seventy-five members and the British Church has fifty-four, although our Church is twelve times as large. We have never desired proportionate representation, since that would give us more than all the rest of the world and create an undesirable situation.

The members of our own Section are not proportionately distributed by Jurisdictions, although they should be. In making their nominations some Jurisdictions increased the number of members allocated to them; the Central added four, the North Central and South Central added three each, and the Western added four. This makes these Jurisdictions proportionately out of line with the others. The Constitution provides that the members are elected by the World Methodist Conference, and the **Discipline** provides that our members shall be nominated by the Council of Bishops. This Executive Committee should recommend that the total members representing The Methodist Church, exclusive of those in Central Conferences, overseas Conferences, and affiliated autonomous Churches, be increased to at least

one hundred, and that they be distributed by our Nominating Committee.

Nominations

We appointed a nominating committee to nominate the officers and members of the Executive Committee and to consider our Sectional membership. There will be a report at this session.

The World Executive Committee at Zurich in August designated the following officers: President: Bishop Fred P. Corson; Secretaries: Lee F. Tuttle, Elmer T. Clark, Max W. Woodward, and E. Benson Perkins; Treasurers: Edwin L. Jones and L. A. Ellwood. These are all members of the World Executive Committee. In keeping with British custom these are "officers designate," to be elected at the Oslo Conference.

Dr. Tuttle cannot take another appointment at his Annual Conference in June, nor can he be left without support for three months until he is elected. He will, of course, be one of the Secretaries of the World Methodist Council, but he will actually be an employee of Section XIII, since we will pay his salary. He should therefore be elected now by this Executive Committee, effective June 1, 1961.

Administrative Work

The work of the Council will be divided between the Secretaries. In Great Britain Dr. Perkins will serve as an "elder statesman" in an advisory capacity and will perform any duties that may be agreed upon between him and Mr. Woodward. In the United States Elmer T. Clark will be the Editorial Secretary in charge of all editorial work and the World Methodist Building at Lake Junaluska. Dr. Tuttle will bear major responsibility for such administrative work as annual conference visitation, exchange of preachers, the World Conferences on Evangelism, the Oxford Theological Institute, and similar activities, calling to his assistance the Secretaries of the Board of Evangelism and the Department of Ministerial Training of the Board of Education, and others who have had experience in and are related to the different areas of work. He will also be in charge of the branch office which will probably be opened in New York and will spend as much time therein as may be necessary.

The various standing committees have been inoperative, as was probably inevitable under the circumstances. It is recommended that all our activities become a part of the regular administrative work of our office and be carried on by the Secretaries. This will unify procedure, provide a business-like program carried on by the executives of the organization, as in all other bodies, and enable us to carry on an enlarged program of work. As mentioned above, this does not mean that the services of other qualified persons will not be utilized, for the Board Secretaries and others who are experts in and related to

the various phases of the program will be called upon and in some cases will bear major responsibility.

The Secretary-designate from London has visited our headquarters for consultation. In Great Britain much work falling under the standing committees is being done by three or four other British members, and this will continue. These persons are not functioning primarily as members of the standing committees, but as members of the British Executive Committee, in the meetings of which they report on their special interests. It is recommended that this general pattern be followed in the United States, and that the Secretaries of Evangelism and Ministerial Training, and any others whose cooperation will be relied upon, be added to this Executive Committee.

Evangelism and Oxford Institute

One of the activities above mentioned is the World Conferences on Evangelism, launched by Dr. Harry Denman, the chairman of our Committee on Evangelism, and adopted as a part of our program by the World Executive Committee. We should of course give the strongest possible support to these Conferences. They are to be in 1963 and will commemorate the 225th anniversary of the Aldersgate experience of John Wesley. One will be at Oxford in England, one at Savannah, Georgia, both important historical places in the life of Wesley, and at other centers in several nations.

Another is the Methodist Theological Institute at Oxford, England, first held in 1958. It was at first proposed to hold another in 1960 but circumstances were not favorable. It is recommended that the Institute be held in 1963 immediately preceding World Conference of Evangelism there. The theme of the Institute might center on evangelism. The World Executive Committee should meet at about the same time, thus enabling committee members to attend all the meetings without additional travel and expense. It is recommended that this Executive Committee adopt this whole plan on behalf of American Methodism and make strong representations to the British Committee for its acceptance.

World Confessional Meeting

A joint meeting of the officers of all the World Confessional Councils has been meeting at Geneva, Switzerland, biennially and these have been most useful in drawing the Protestant forces together, exchanging information on programs, and developing fraternal relations. The World Methodist Council has been represented, as have the World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, Baptist World Alliance, Presbyterian World Alliance, Friends World Committee, Pentecostal World Conference, World Convention of the Disciples of Christ, International Congregational Council, Anglican bodies, and others. A meeting was scheduled to be held in April, 1961, but because of the crowded schedule due to the Assembly of the World Council of

Churches at New Delhi, India, in November and December, it has been deferred until April 3-4, 1962. Some of our officers should attend this important gathering.

Finances

The Treasurer will, of course, present a statement on finances. The Oslo Committee has a budget of $14,000 to be paid out of the Central World Fund. We are expected to provide 58% of that fund and we have budgeted $5,000. We have received about $2400 from other Sections in the Western Hemisphere and other small contributions have been promised. It is expected that further payments will be made before the Oslo Conference. The Secretary in Great Britain reported at Zurich that he had $3000 in cash and promises for the fund. It seems therefore, that the budget of the Oslo Committee can be met.

But this is by no means the total claim that will be made on the World Fund. A book of hymns and a ritual for communion services must be printed, badges must be secured, and the official volume of **Proceedings** must be edited, published and distributed. This book is to be printed by the Epworth Press in London, and we have already stressed the necessity of promoting sales and taking orders at Oslo. It should be self-supporting but we had to pay a considerable sum when the 1951 book was printed in London, and the 1956 volume also required a subsidy. All this was before we had the World Fund, and our Section paid the entire amount in each case. We are asking all speakers to submit their manuscripts in advance. One of our secretaries will prepare the minutes of the meetings and help edit the manuscripts so that everything may be turned over to the printers at once.

We have never been able to pay all the expenses of our members in attending the World Executive Committee meetings; each has borne a part and we have secured additional money from the Council on World Service and Finance for the expenses of the Bishops. In the budget submitted for this quadrennium we included $25,000 per year for these annual meetings, but our askings were cut so drastically that this could not be provided. We then asked for that amount for one year only because of the Oslo Conference. As always, the response was most generous and the Council graciously agreed to pay the expenses of all the Bishops who are members of the Executive Committee or on the Oslo program. This included twenty-one American and four overseas Bishops, and Dr. Don A. Cooke has already paid the deposits required to secure their reservations.

This is of great importance. Because of the position of the Bishops in our Church we desire their presence, advice, and cooperation at all times. This Executive Committee should express its deep gratitude to Bishop Roy H. Short, Secretary of the Council of Bishops, and to Dr. Don A. Cooke, Treasurer of the Council on World Service and Finance, for their wholehearted and generous cooperation, which is really worth more to our organization than the money involved.

New York Office

We have previously mentioned the probability of establishing a branch office in New York. This has been under consideration for some time. Mention has also been made of American University in Washington as a suitable site, but this has not met with much support because New York is the center of ecumenical activity as well as the headquarters of the largest Board of American Methodism.

Inquiries have been made and it seems that we may secure an office in the Interchurch Center on Riverside Drive, where many Church agencies are housed. This is the most expensive of all the places investigated. No space can be secured on or even near floors 13-15 occupied by our Board of Missions, but we may be able to secure an office on the fourth floor near the headquarters of the World Convention of the Churches of Christ (Disciples).

This Executive Committee should give its advice and authorize the Treasurer, in consultation with the other officers, to proceed as may be deemed advisable. It is understood, of course, that the main headquarters must remain at Lake Junaluska because our fine World Methodist Building and all its equipment and numerous modern office appliances are there, and it would not be possible to transfer all this to another location. There all our literary work will be done and one of the Secretaries will spend as much time as necessary in the new office.

The Eleventh Conference

The Board of Trustees of the Lake Junaluska Assembly has invited the World Methodist Council or Conference to hold its next meeting on the Assembly grounds. If the new Constitution is adopted this will be in 1965. The Ninth World Conference at Lake Junaluska in 1956 was the largest ever held and the place is without the distractions that are found in large cities. Furthermore, because it is owned by the Church we can offer financial advantages there that would be impossible at any other place. For example, in 1956 our Section provided entertainment for all the foreign members, but this could not possibly be done elsewhere. This was mentioned to the British in New York in November and they stated that if the meeting was held in the United States, as would probably be agreed upon, the site should be designated by us. It is therefore recommended that we join the Trustees in inviting the Eleventh Methodist Council and Conference to meet at Lake Junaluska.

Executive Committee Meetings

There has been long discussion and correspondence with the Secretary and the Secretary-designate in Great Britain concerning the future meetings of the World Executive Committee. This is properly a

matter for the incoming administration, but action must be taken now if the schedule is to be adopted at Oslo. Mr. Woodward, Dr. Tuttle and I have agreed upon the following recommendations:

1962. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. This is on the American Continent but not in the United States, and does not violate the constitutional provision that the Executive Committee should meet at places where the Council or Conference is not expected to meet. Methodism in Canada was first started in Nova Scotia by William Black, and he was ordained at the Christmas Conference at Baltimore in 1784. The Christmas Conference also appointed two missionaries to Nova Scotia.

1963. Rome, Italy. On two previous occasions plans have been made to meet in Rome, but they were cancelled. This city is in Europe but not in Great Britain, and a meeting there would not contravene the constitutional provision mentioned. In 1963 a World Conference on Evangelism will be held at Oxford, and it is expected that the Theological Institute will meet there the same year. A meeting of the Executive Committee in Rome would fulfill our past promises to the Church there and would enable Americans who may attend the Oxford meetings to proceed to the Executive Committee without much additional travel.

1964. The Continent of Africa. It is felt that there might be great advantage in meeting somewhere on this great Continent. Consideration was given to Liberia, the first foreign mission field of American Methodism. There is a modern hotel but its prices are exorbitant. I have therefore suggested that the meeting be held at Trinidad, which is in British Methodist territory, Rio de Janeiro, or South Africa. The Central World Fund is authorized to help members who must travel long distances, and there is a possibility that some of the members might be granted a subsidy from this fund.

1965. At the seat of the World Methodist Council meeting. This is predicated on the adoption of the new Constitution, and an adjustment will be made if this Constitution is not adopted or other circumstances make it advisable.

It is recommended that this Committee endorse the above schedule in principle.

Enlarged Activities

With our enlarged budget and the coming of another Secretary, it is important that our program of work in this country be greatly enlarged, and such is being planned. We should adopt a policy of visitation and send representatives to as many Annual Conference sessions as possible, using our own Secretaries and other members also. Our Church is so large and far flung that it is difficult to inform and arouse enthusiasm of the people for the work of the Council, and such visitation should do much at this point.

We should enlarge our press service and send regular news releases to the Church press and other publications. We should press the exchange of preachers with vigor, as well as promote the Oxford Theological Institute. The Sections in this Hemisphere should meet more frequently; we have had only one meeting in ten years and that was of only two days duration. These meetings serve to promote acquaintance and fellowship, inform the people, and show the members that more is involved in membership than simply attending a Council or Conference meeting at five-year intervals.

We must enlarge our literary work. The *Dictionary of World Methodism* was adopted as our leading historical project ten years ago, but little has been done because of our small staff. I have been repeatedly requested to prepare a popular summary of events in Methodism over the last fifty years, and at least two other publications are being urged upon us. We now have funds for this purpose, and with the completion of the Oslo delegations it will be possible to undertake much more editorial work.

These are suggestions as to what an enlarged program of work should be. Other features will be added as time goes on. It is important that we should secure the wholehearted sympathy and cooperation of the whole Church and justify the confidence which the General Conference and the Council on World Service and Finance has reposed in us.

Respectfully submitted,

ELMER T. CLARK
Secretary

Present and Proposed Constitutions

PRESENT CONSTITUTION OF THE WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the World Methodist Council.

II. Purpose

It shall federate the various Methodist churches and groups throughout the world; develop closer unity among them; provide contacts between the various groups; arrange exchanges of preachers; advise its constituent churches on union and other matters; disseminate information by publication and otherwise concerning Methodism; maintain headquarters for its activities; and do any and all other things necessary to the promotion of World Methodism and its effective witness within the universal church of Jesus Christ.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF THE METHODIST WORLD FEDERATION

I. Name

The name of this organization shall be *The Methodist World Federation.*

II. Purpose

The Methodist World Federation is a federation of the Churches in the Methodist tradition throughout the world. It does not seek to legislate for them nor to invade their autonomy. Rather it exists to serve them and to give unity to their witness and enterprise. In particular it seeks

(a) To deepen the fellowship of the Methodist peoples over the barriers of race, nationality, color and language.

(b) To foster Methodist participation in the ecumenical movement and to promote the unity of Methodist witness and service in that movement.

(c) To advance unity of theological and moral standards in the Methodist churches of the world.

(d) To suggest priorities in Methodist activity.

(e) To promote the most effective use of Methodist resources in the Christian mission throughout the world.

(f) To encourage evangelism in every land.

(g) To promote Christian Education and the Church's care for Youth.

III. How Constituted

1. The World Methodist Council shall be a federation composed of Sections representing the Methodist Churches of the world. It shall determine the arrangement of the Sections and the number of members allocated to each, provided that at least one-fourth of those elected at any meeting shall be new members.

2. Each Section shall be composed of the number of members designated by the Council and all such members shall be members of the World Methodist Council.

3. The members shall be elected by the World Methodist Conference on nomination of the Sections of the Conference. They shall be subject to confirmation or substitution by the churches which they represent according to the usual method of such churches, but they shall exercise the duties of membership until they are thus confirmed, changed, or rejected.

4. The members of each Section may name any officers and committees desired, and these shall function only for the Section.

IV. Meetings

1. The World Methodist Council shall meet at such times as it or the Executive Committee considers desirable, but at least once in each five-year period.

2. The place of meeting shall be determined by the Council or the Executive Committee. The meetings shall be held in the main centers of Methodist work throughout the world, which shall be selected in the light of accessibility, travel cost, and the probability of a representative attendance.

V. World Methodist Conference

1. The World Methodist Council shall convene a World Methodist

(h) To uphold and relieve persecuted or needy Christian minorities.

(i) To provide a means of consultation and cooperation between World Methodism and the other world communions of the Christian Church.

(j) To study Union and Reunion proposals which affect Methodist member Churches and to offer advice and help as desired.

III. Membership

The Methodist World Federation is comprised of the Churches in the Methodist tradition which satisfy the criteria the Federation may itself from time to time prescribe. Churches not in membership when this Constitution is adopted may apply for membership at any meeting of the Federation, or in years when the Federation does not meet at any meeting of the Executive Committee. Union Churches which have retained in their faith and government a substantial part of the Methodist inheritance are eligible to apply for a full place within the Methodist World Federation.

IV. Sections

Member Churches in geographical proximity may organize themselves in Sections within the Methodist World Federation to further the stated purposes of the Federation and may hold such gatherings as are useful and practicable.

V. The Federation

The Federation is a self-governing body deriving its advisory and administrative authority from the several Methodist Churches constituting its membership and existing for the purposes outlined in Section II. Its members are designated by the member Churches in accordance with their respective disciplines and procedures, the numbers allotted to

Conference at such times and places as the Council or Executive Committee considers desirable, but at least once in each ten-year period.

2. The Conference shall be composed of all the members of the World Methodist Council, and of all Officers of the Committees of the World Methodist Council, and of certain delegates and accredited visitors appointed by the Sections in the ratio determined by the Council or Executive Committee.

VI. Relationships

1. The World Methodist Council shall be the legal and authoritative body responsible for the executive and administrative affairs of the whole organization.

2. The World Methodist Conference shall be an advisory body providing at its meetings a more representative group of Methodists from the various Sections. Its duties shall be mainly educational, inspirational, and fraternal in nature.

3. All matters of an administrative or executive nature shall be settled by vote of the World Methodist Council. The World Methodist Conference shall have the right to vote on all matters submitted to it by the Council.

each Church being decided by the Executive Committee. Member Churches are urged in making their designations to include laymen and laywomen members and to distriute their appointments over their total territory. In addition it is permissible for the Executive Committee to add to the Federation up to ten members additional to those designated by the member Churches. The total number of Federation members may not be less than 250 nor more than 500. The Federation shall meet at such times as it or the Executive Committee considers desirable but at least once in each four year period. The place of meeting shall be determined by the Federation or the Executive Committee. The meetings shall be held in the main centers of Methodist work throughout the world, which shall be selected in the light of accessibility, travel costs, and the probability of a representative attendance. The Federation or the Executive Committee shall submit an annual report to the member Churches with the hope that this may be presented to their annual or other conferences and appropriate committees.

VI. The Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee which shall exercise all the functions of the Methodist World Federation between its meetings, including the review and amendment of budget and the election of a President or Vice President and Secretary or Secretaries in case between meetings of the Methodist World Federation a vacancy should occur. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Federation at each meeting. It shall be composed of the officers of the Federation and such other members as the Federation shall determine. Its

VII. Officers

1. The officers of the World Methodist Council shall be a President and one or more Vice Presidents elected by the Council, and a Treasurer or Treasurers, and a Permanent Secretariat elected by the Executive Committee.

2. The duties of the President, Vice Presidents, and Treasurers shall be those usually performed by such officers.

3. The Permanent Secretariat shall be composed of a Secretary or Secretaries who shall be the executive officers of the World Methodist Council, carry on its correspondence, maintain its headquarters, edit and publish its documents, keep the minutes of its meetings and the meetings of the Executive Committee, and perform all the duties of administrative and executive officers.

4. The President and Vice President shall hold office for a period of five years, or from the close of the Council meeting which elected them to the close of the Council meeting next following. They shall not be eligible for re-election. A retiring President shall be a member of the Council and the Executive Committee as Past President for a further period of five years.

number shall not be less than 25 nor more than 50. The Executive Committee shall have power to fill all vacancies in its own membership which occur between meetings of the Federation. The Executive Committee shall meet annually if practicable at such times and places as it may determine and preferably at places where the Federation or Congress is not expected to meet. It may determine matters relating to the program and finances of its meetings and may invite non-members for particular purposes. The Executive Committee is free to make its own rules for substitutes in cases of unavoidable absence from its meetings.

VII. The Congress

The Federation shall convene a Congress of the Methodist World Federation at such times and places as the Federation or the Executive Committee considers desirable but at least once in each eight year period. The Congress shall be composed of all the members of the Federation and of all officers of the Committees of the Methodist World Federation and of delegates and accredited visitors appointed by the member Churches in the ratio determined by the Federation or Executive Committee. The purpose of the Congress is to secure a wider dissemination of interest in the affairs of the Methodist World Federation and to promote a sense of unity among the Methodist people. Its duties shall be educational, inspirational and fraternal in nature. All matters of an administrative or executive nature shall be settled by vote of the Federation. The Congress shall have the right to vote on such matters as are submitted to it by the Federation or Executive Committee.

VIII. Executive Committee

1. There shall be an Executive Committee which shall exercise all the functions of the World Methodist Council and the World Methodist Conference in the interim between the meetings of these larger bodies, including the electing of a president or vice president in case between meetings of the World Methodist Council a vacancy should occur.

2. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Council at each meeting. It shall be composed of the officers of the Council and such other members as the Council shall determine.

3. The Executive Committee shall meet annually if practicable at such times and places as it may determine and preferably at places where the Council or Conference is not expected to meet. It may determine matters relating to the program and finances of its meetings and may invite non-members for particular purposes. In case of unavoidable absences substitutes may be designated for specified meetings by the Sections which the absentees represent.

4. During the interval between meetings of the Council the Executive Committee may fill temporary vacancies in its membership after consultation with the Sections involved.

IX. Other Committees

1. There shall be a Committee on Exchange of Preachers which shall be constituted by the Council on the basis of nominations from Sections IX (The Methodist Church, U.S.A.), and from such other Sections as shall come to share in the exchange from time to time. Its duties shall be to arrange temporary exchanges of preachers between the constituent churches of the World

VIII. Officers

The officers of the Methodist World Federation, who shall also be the officers of the Congress, shall be a President, the Past-Presidents, one or more Vice Presidents elected by the Federation, a Treasurer or Treasurers, and a Secretary or Secretaries elected by the Federation on the nomination of the Executive Committee. The duties of the President, Past-Presidents, Vice Presidents, Treasurer or Treasurers and Secretary or Secretaries shall be those usually performed by such officers. The Secretary or Secretaries shall have the special duty of carrying out the decisions of the Federation and of the Executive Committee in cooperation with the President and the Treasurer or Treasurers.

IX. Budget and Finance Committee

There shall be a Budget and Finance Committee composed of the officers of The Methodist World Federation plus not less than five (5) nor more than nine (9) members elected by the Federation. Whenever there are less than the maximum number of members, vacancies may be filled by the Committe itself or by the Executive Committee.

It shall be the duty of this Committee (a) to prepare and submit to each meeting of the Federation a budget as a basis for discussion, planning and for adoption as amended, (b) to prepare a recommended allocation of budget costs as between the member Churches which appears to the Committee to be reasonable and appropriate and to advise each member Church of the Committee's recommendation, (c) to keep in touch with the financial officers or bodies of the member Churches with reference to supplying the budgetary needs of the

Methodist Council. It shall have co-secretaries in such countries as may be determined by itself, and they shall maintain contact with and report to the Secretaries and the Executive Committee.

2. There may be other committees similarly appointed as the Council may determine. The Council may provide for the membership and structure of such committees, define their duties, receive their reports, and direct their activities.

X. Departments and Affiliates

1. The World Methodist Council may create Departments for its own work and may prescribe their duties.

2. It may also accept other bodies as affiliated organizations on such terms as may be mutually acceptable.

XI. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by the vote of three-fourths of the members of the World Methodist Council present and voting at any meeting, provided the amendments have been considered by the Executive Committee.

Methodist World Federation, and (d) to report to each meeting of the Federation and of the Executive Committee.

X. Other Committees

The Federation and the Executive Committee may each appoint such committees as they shall desire, provide for the membership and structure of such committees, define their duties, receive their reports and direct their activities.

XI Departments and Affiliates

The Federation may create departments of the Methodist World Federation for its work and may prescribe their duties. It may also accept other bodies as affiliated organizations of the Methodist World Federation on such terms as may be mutually acceptable.

XII. Amendments

This Constitution of The Methodist World Federation may be amended by the vote of three-fourths of the members of the Federation present and voting at any meeting, providing the amendments have been considered by the Executive Committee.

MEMBERS OF THE WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL REPRESENTING THE METHODIST CHURCH, U.S.A.

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Selection deferred

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Bishop Ferdinand Sigg, 69 Badenerstrasse, Zurich, Switzerland
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Mrs. Ernst Scholz, Berlin-Lichterfelde-West, Paulinenstrasse 30
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Bishop Friedrich Wunderlich, Frankfurt a.M., Grillparzerstrasse 34

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Rev. Gordon A. Christensen, Haneji-son, Taira-ku, Okinawa

ASBURY LETTERS

Three new Asbury letters have come to light recently and in addition two others of which only parts were used in the volume of Letters. *they were found in the library of Garrett Biblical Institute in several volumes of portraits of bishops by the Rev. Brooks B. Little, librarian of The Upper Room Devotional library. The preparation and editorial work on these have been done by J. Manning Potts.*

This letter was referred to in the Volume of Letters *on page 165. The letter was found too late for publication there. However a small part of the letter was published. It was the last page of Asbury's letter and seemed to be a postscript although it was not called that.*

Baltimore, Maryland, October 24, 1797

To Ezekiel Cooper
My very dear Brother.

All things are well with us here, I am absent from Conference by weakness of body. I am full of infirmaties but the will of the Lord be done. I hope the standing committe will magnify their office and show their taste on spirituality also. I wish to print nothing but sterling sense and sentaments. There appears a Harmony in the whole body of conference. I am teaching and training them to do without me. My grief is I am Bishop alone. My honor and office I cannot give to another. If I could I judge it would be soon done. If you ever supposed alienation of affection in me to you in my refusing to write, you are mistaken. But the best of men are men at the best. I have a wish that a few Letters I wrote upwards of thirty years ago coppied and presented by my Friend Andrews, might be put into the Magazine. I am sure I am right in my desire of printing the notes on the discipline. You in your Annual distant station can hardly conceive the Mischief and abuse we meet with from unchristian and Illiberal minds. In many parts they raise a dust and escape in the clouds. Next Sabbath I hope to preach in the new building. Last Lords Day I had to preach on the death of Martha Fonerdon Johns Gosepl, Eleventh Chapter 24, 25, 26, 27 verses. Oh my dear Cooper be wholly for God this will be a year of Judgment and Mercy. I am as ever thine

in Jesus
Francis Asbury

I now write to you from Baltimore
October 24, 1797 bear this in mind.

This is an undated letter to William Colbert. It has come to light in Garrett Biblical Institute. The place from which it was written is unknown. Although undated it seems to have been written in 1802. Asbury went to Fort Pitt in the summer of 1803. Colbert in 1802 was the new presiding elder on the Albany, N. Y., District, one possible reason for the salutation "My dear Little Son."

Saturday Noon, 1802

*To Elder William Colbert
My dear Little Son

You will oblige me exceedingly if you can give me a letter of information of the District, and preachers, and prospects. If I am to continue my Labours, I per[pose] against the advise of my best friends, to pass through your lines to fort Pitt next summer on the way to Kentucky Conference. I have no intention of preaching as I go, only on Sabbath [days]. I must ride, ride from Monday till Saturday night, I have not time to [write]; hope you will call upon me when convenient. I am

as ever thine
F Asbury

*Name on back of letter
Saturday Noon

The letter is to William Colbert one of Asbury's faithful preachers. It has come to light in Garrett Biblical Institute.

Philadelphia, Pa., July 8, 1806

To William Colbert
My very dear Billy

Grace great grace attend you I am pleased for your own sake that you are still in the work God hath called you to, and blessed you in. I am for myself fully determined never! never! to persuade any man to stay with us, for such men will go, in the end, if [line torn and repaired] the men are persuaded to stay [?] I had rather the[y] would go at the first, as the last. God will maintain his holy cause, or he will convert him[?] at campmeetings or stir up official members to praying and exhorting. As they said some places wanted the preachers, but at the plains, the leaders were sufficient, one had near 100 in a class I have visited From York, to Portland Ticondooga, Crownfront, Burlington up the lake, I have heard of 8 or 10 Campmeetings in Northern states this spring great times of the Lords power. I am in haste but all my heart is Love to thee and thine

F Asbury

We have rode 1300 miles since the
Philadelphia Conference, a good
conference in York and New England

P.S. Increase of Members this year 11561 besides Deaths, removals, expulsions, and those that have been Stolen from us by other Societies, and many Solitary cases that have joyned no society but Blessed by our Labours.

Thomas Coke Letters

John A. Vickers of England is preparing a thesis on Thomas Coke which will also be delivered as the Wesley Historical Society Lecture at the British Conference of 1964. In this preparation he is making a collection of Coke letters with the hope that they may be published in connection with the Journal of Thomas Coke, the text of which he is now editing. Mr. Vickers naturally hopes to include as many extant letters as can be located, as well as other manuscript material, and it is hoped that any persons knowing of such materials will advise the office of the Methodist Historical Society at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, or write directly to Mr. Vickers at Vernon Holme, Harbledown, Canterbury, Kent.

Mr. Vickers also calls our attention to a new publication on Methodism in Canterbury, which may be of interest to American Methodist visitors to that historic city. This booklet can be obtained directly from him at the above address, at a cost of 3/10 post free.

Cape May Observance

The New Jersey Annual Conference will observe with suitable exercises the work of the Cape May Commission, which met at Cape May, New Jersey, on September 16-23, 1876. A marker has been erected there and the address on the occasion will be delivered by Bishop Ivan Lee Holt.

The Cape May Commission was composed of representatives from the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was probably the first meeting of representatives of these two bodies after the division of the Church in 1844 and may be regarded as the beginning of unification discussions.

In a report unanimously adopted by both Commissions, it was agreed that each of the Churches was a legitimate branch of Episcopal Methodism. It declared that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized in 1845 by the voluntary exercise of the rights of the annual conferences conferred by the action of the General Conference of 1844, which provided that the Southern Conferences might organize themselves into a separate Church if they so desired. The report pointed out further that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, had been an evangelical Church and that both bodies constituted one Methodist family.

It was the refutation of the charge that the southern church was a "secession" from the northern branch.

The Methodist School of Fellowship

Americans who may be passing through England enroute to the World Methodist Conference at Oslo, Norway, are invited to attend The Methodist School of Fellowship, which will meet at "The Hayes," Swanwick, Derbyshire, England, on August 5-12, 1961. This is a conference which has been meeting in England annually since 1916. It is for purposes of fellowship, training, and the development of religious experience.

The President of the School this year is the Reverend Thomas M. Morrow, Warden and General Secretary of the Wesley Deaconess College at Ilkley, who will preside over the School and conduct the Sunday morning Service of Holy Communion.

Lectures will be given by the Reverend George A. E. Cornforth of Sutton, Coldfield on the "Minor Prophets," and by the Rev. Dr. J. Alan Kay and the Reverend K. K. Vaughan Jones on "Christianity and the Arts." Religious and political problems in Africa will be discussed by the Rev. L. Bruce Greaves, one of the Secretaries of the Conference of Missionary Societies in Great Britain.

Persons who may desire to take advantage of this School should write to Miss Doris Whiteman, Fifty, New Road, Ascot, Berkshire, England.

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Association of Methodist Historical Societies will meet at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, on Friday, July 14. Headquarters will be at the Lambuth Inn, and members should make their own hotel reservations there.

The Historical Society of the Southeastern Jurisdiction will meet at Lake Junaluska on July 11-13, immediately preceding the meeting of the National Executive Committee. Its headquarters will also be at Lambuth Inn. One day of the Jurisdictional Society's meeting will be devoted to a tour of the mountain area, including a trip over the Asbury Trail, which was used by Bishops Asbury and McKendree in crossing the mountains in 1810.

World Methodist Conference

The Tenth World Methodist Conference will be held at Oslo, Norway, August 17-25, 1961. The affiliated World Federation of Methodist Women will meet at Oslo on August 14-16.

Around one thousand members, delegates and official representatives will go from the United States to these meetings. The group includes persons from The Methodist Church, U.S.A., the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, the Free Methodist Church, the Wesleyan Methodist Church, and the Primitive Methodist Church. There will be delegations from Canada, the West Indies, and South America also. The program has been prepared and it includes the most notable speakers of the Methodist world. A copy of the program may be secured by writing to the World Methodist Council, Lake Junaluska, North Carolina.

Notable features of the program are a series of University lectures on certain afternoons, a section called "Methodism in Action," which

will include addresses each morning on various features of Methodist work and the status of Methodism in the various troubled areas of the world, an ecumenical service at the Oslo Cathedral, which will be addressed by the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, and a Youth Night and great Sunday services in the Sports Arena which has a seating capacity of around 5000. Most of the morning and evening sessions will be in the Philadelphia Hall of the Pentecostal Church, which has a seating capacity of 2500. There will be services of Holy Communion each morning in the Central Methodist Church.

The Reverend Max W. Woodward Visits American Headquarters

The Reverend Max W. Woodward, pastor of Wesley's Chapel on City Road, London, England, visited the United States in March and spent two days in the headquarters building of the World Methodist Council at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. Mr. Woodward has been designated as one of the joint Secretaries of the World Methodist Council, resident in Great Britain. The purpose of his visit, in addition to preaching at various assemblies in Pennsylvania, was to confer with the Secretary resident in the United States concerning the future program of the World Methodist Council.

Clergy Permits For Oslo Conference

Arrangements have been made whereby persons attending the World Methodist Conference in August may purchase clergy tickets from their home to New York and return on presentation only of the clergy certificate of the territory in which the traveler begins his journey. This applies to the whole country and to Canada, but of course this is of interest only to clergymen. Ordinarily three or four different clergy permits would have to be secured for persons traveling across the country.

Membership Classes Visit Building

A number of Methodist pastors are bringing the young people who are in training for church membership to the World Methodist Building to receive information concerning Methodism. By coming in touch with original letters of John Wesley and other Methodist leaders, portraits, busts, art objects and books of or by the Wesleys, these young people receive indelible impressions of Methodism, its origins and early leadership.

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